

United States Department of the Interior

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FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE:

April 22, 2005

TO:

Emily Youcha

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907-278-7022

CC:

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FROM:

Ken Lord

SUBJECT: PRP Response Letter

PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 5

MESSAGE:

Emily:

Here, at long last, is the Department of the Interior's response to your PRP notice. I apologize for the delay - it is difficult to gets things drafted, reviewed, and signed when your clients travel as much as mine apparently do. I will forward the original to you by snail mail either today or Monday. As you can see above, I plan to fax this to as many of the participating parties for whom I have fax numbers, but, unfortunately, my list is incomplete.

Ken

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Alaska State Office 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13 Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599 http://www.ak.blm.gov



6717 (910)

APR 2 1. 2005

Ms. Emily Youcha
State of Alaska
Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3643

Dear Ms. Youcha:

This is a combined response for the Department of the Interior (DOI) Agencies to your letter dated September 24, 2004, regarding the Camp Lonely Landfill Potential Responsibility Notice. The DOI has conducted an extensive document search; it is our belief we have located as many documents that are currently available. We continue to search for additional information; if more documents are found, they will be forwarded to you.

Question 1. Name and company affiliation of the person answering the questionnaire

James H. Coleman Jr. for Leslie Holland –Bartels United States Geological Survey (USGS), Alaska Science Center

Wayne Svejnoha-Hazardous Materials Program Manager, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Alaska State Office.

Susan Flora, Environmental Scientist, BLM -Alaska Northern Field Office, Arctic Team

Question 2. <u>Information on who placed, stored or disposed of wastes at the site, the types and volumes of wastes placed, stored or disposed of at the site, and when these activities occurred.</u>

The following are known to have used Camp Lonely and perhaps the landfill:

-The lands at the Camp Lonely site were managed by the U.S. Navy from 1923 to June 1, 1977, and withdrawn for U.S. Air Force use from December 26, 1957, to June 1, 1977, when the withdrawal was legislatively revoked.

- -The U.S. Navy and its contractor Husky Oil National Petroleum Reserve (NPR) Operations until June 1, 1977.
- -The USGS and its contractor Husky Oil NPR Operations, June 1, 1977, until December 5, 1981.
- From the records obtained, the ADEC issued Solid Waste Disposal Permit NR-32-77 to Mr. Max C. Brewer, Chief of Operations for the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A), USGS, on August 25, 1978. The permit had an expiration date of December 31, 1981.
- -Western Geophysical, April 29, 1982, to Unknown.
- -A January 21, 1983, letter transmitting a solid waste disposal application from Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated (CIRI) to ADEC. CIRI states that its intention is to use the completed landfill as a storage area.
- -On March 31, 1983, ADEC issued Solid Waste Disposal Permit 8331-BA001 to CIRI with an expiration date of April 1, 1988. U.S. Air Force records referred to an agreement between CIRI and the Air Force allowing the Air Force to dump at the site in exchange for the Air Force conducting close out of the landfill operations at the end of their use period.

It appears that the U.S. Air Force actively and solely operated the landfill from late 1982 to about 1987, when they claim to have closed the landfill.

Question 3 Provide copies of all studies, reports, and supporting information (including preacquisition assessments and work done on behalf of other parties) which you have knowledge of which address past and/or present environmental conditions at the site. Identify the name, title, address, and phone number of the party(s) who are responsible for preparing the studies or information. Information which has been previously submitted need not be submitted again.

Copies of all supporting information from the DOI were forwarded to the ADEC by Wayne Svejnoha, BLM, via Fed Ex Overnight on February 1, 2005. Any additional information that is found will be forwarded directly to the attention of Emily Youcha, ADEC.

Question 4 Description of any ongoing or planned investigations or cleanup work at the site.

Identify the names, titles, and phone numbers of the individuals responsible for preparing the studies or information.

No investigations or cleanup work is planned by the DOI at this present time. CIRI, the current leaseholder for the camp site, is renewing its lease of the site with the BLM. As part of the lease renewal, CIRI has been directed to remove all surface improvements that are not useable or repairable. CIRI has informed the BLM that they are negotiating removal operations to be conducted. No specific operations plans have been received by the BLM.

Question 5 Description of known releases at the site (date and occurrence, quantity released, type of substance released, etc.) and a description of corrective measures that were taken. Information on suspected releases, which may have occurred or are occurring.

3

-During the period of June 1, 1977, until December 5, 1981, there were no known spills at the landfill.

-U.S. Air Force and ADEC records indicate visual observations of oil sheening on surface waters adjacent to the west face of the landfill, been documented in 1986, 1987, 1989, and 2004. A surface water sample collected in 1986 by the U.S. Air Force contractor, FELEC Services, Inc., resulted in a total chromium analysis of 7.6 mg/L.

Question 6 Nature of past and present operations at this site, in particular, any actions that may have caused the release or threat of release at this site.

-The U.S. Navy's oil and gas exploration program in the arctic region commenced in 1944. The Defense Early Warning (DEW) Line Station System, including the Lonely DEW Station, was constructed and began operation in 1953. Starting in 1957, the operation of the Lonely DEW Station was conducted by contractors to the U.S. Air Force.

-On June 1, 1977, jurisdiction for land management was transferred from the U.S. Navy to the U.S. Department of Interior. At this time, the U.S. Air Force withdrawal was considered legislatively revoked. A right-of-way permit was issued by BLM in 1986 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the U.S. Air Force.

-From June 1, 1977 to December 5, 1981, during USGS occupation, up to 100 people were housed at the camp. This facility was used as a base camp for oil exploration and test well drilling in the NPR-A. A sewage treatment plant and sanitary landfill were operated under ADEC permits.

Question 7 Persons to whom you leased all or a portion of the property and describe the nature of their operations

-Although not leased, the DOI Contractor, Husky Oil NPR Operations performed test well drilling operations from June 1, 1977, until December 5, 1981.

-In 1984, the BLM completed issuance of a 20-year lease to CIRI for use of the camp pad. The lease is currently being reviewed for renewal.

Question 8 <u>List of Persons, and their phone numbers and addresses, who have knowledge about the use, storage or disposal of hazardous materials at this site.</u>

John Schindler George Gryc
Husky Oil NPR Operations USGS (retired)
2473 Captain Cook Dr. Mail Stop 973
Anchorage, AK 345 Middlefield Dr.
(907) 248-4548 Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 329-5122

Max Brewer
USGS (retired)
(907) 561.0336

M.F. Westfall
Husky Oil, Ops. VP
3201 C St., Suite 600
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4

James Devine USGS Mail Stop 106 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive Reston, VA 20192 (703) 648-4423 Marc Jones Western Geophysical 639 N. 34th St. Seattle, WA 98103

Robert Mood Geophysical Services 1550 Northwest Highway Anchorage, AK 99502 (907) 272-0563 Dames and Moore 5801 Silverado Way Park Ridge, Il 60058

Hazel Felton CIRI (See Question 9)

Question 9 Other relevant information on the site history, operations, cleanup work, or agreements that may be applicable to this matter.

In 1984, the BLM completed issuance of a 20-year lease to CIRI for use of the camp pad. In July 2004, Susan Flora accompanied Hazel Felton, CIRI, in a walk-through of the lease-hold. Old hazardous substances left in the buildings, as well as 55-gallon drums labeled as waste oil, and numerous lead-acid batteries scattered in the buildings, and on the camp pad were identified. In a September 17, 2004, telephone conversation, Hazel stated that all of the identified hazardous substances had been removed. BLM has not received CIRI's report of the removed items as of October 15, 2004.

Question 10 Provide information regarding the existence of insurance coverage for damages resulting from releases of hazardous substances and copies of all such insurance policies, both currently in effect and in effect during the periods of activity in question.

Insurance coverage is not applicable to the U.S. Government.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Leslie E. Holland-Bartels, Deputy Regional Director of the USGS or Henri R. Bisson, State Director for the BLM.

Sincerely,

Henri R. Bisson

State Director, BLM

Leslie E. Holland-Bartels

Deputy Regional Director, USGS